

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 29, 2005

The Honorable Richard W. Pombo
Chairman
Committee on Resources
United States House of Representatives
1342 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We are writing to express our grave concern regarding legislative efforts to weaken the existing offshore drilling ban off Florida's fragile coastline.

As you know, the existing ban, which has had strong bi-partisan support, was put in place to protect Florida's highly fragile ecosystem. Eliminating the drilling ban poses a clear danger to our environment and an economy that are inextricably linked.

During the House Resources Committee's markup of the National Energy Supply Diversification and Disruption Prevention Act, the Committee adopted the Peterson/Abercrombie amendment which would lift the presidential and congressional moratoria on natural gas production along the country's Outer Continental Shelf (OCS).

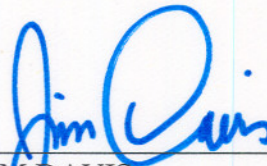
This reckless approach not only opens Florida's pristine coast to natural gas production, but it poses a catastrophic risk which cannot stand. Under no circumstances can we support legislation that includes this devastating amendment or similar language.

Florida's environment and coastline are national treasures worthy of our protection and vital to our state's economy. We strongly encourage you to join with us in protecting these assets and join us in rejecting the Peterson/Abercrombie amendment's reckless approach.

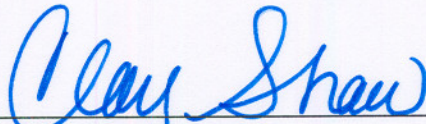
Sincerely,



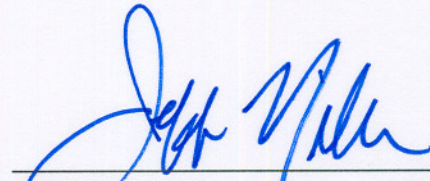
CONNIE MACK
Member of Congress



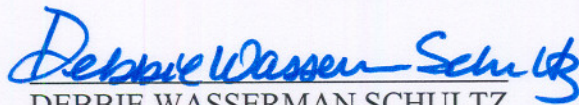
JIM DAVIS
Member of Congress



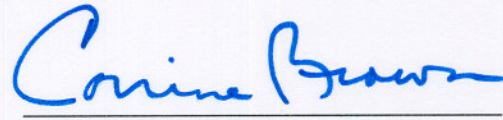
CLAY SHAW
Member of Congress



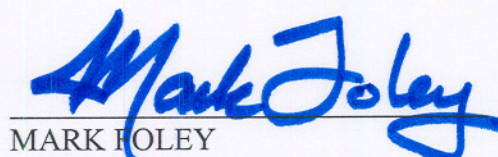
JEFF MILLER
Member of Congress



DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
Member of Congress



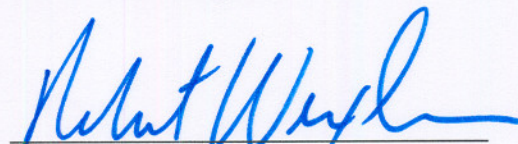
CORRINE BROWN
Member of Congress



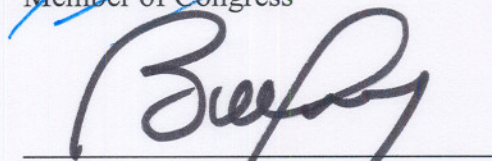
MARK FOLEY
Member of Congress



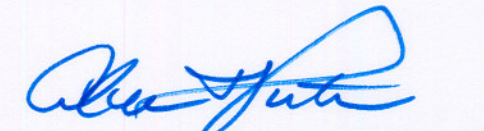
MARIO DIAZ-BALART
Member of Congress



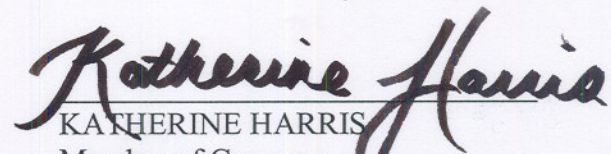
ROBERT WEXLER
Member of Congress



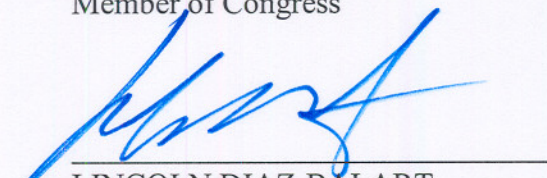
C. W. BILL YOUNG
Member of Congress



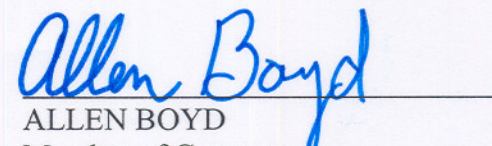
ADAM PUTNAM
Member of Congress



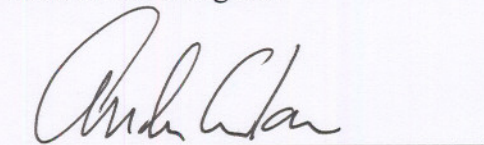
KATHERINE HARRIS
Member of Congress



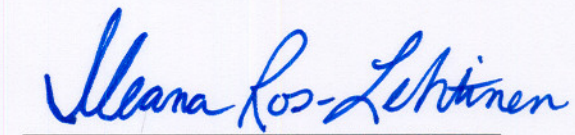
LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART
Member of Congress



ALLEN BOYD
Member of Congress

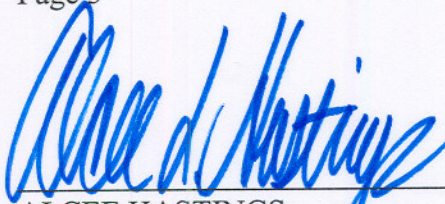


ANDER CRENSHAW
Member of Congress

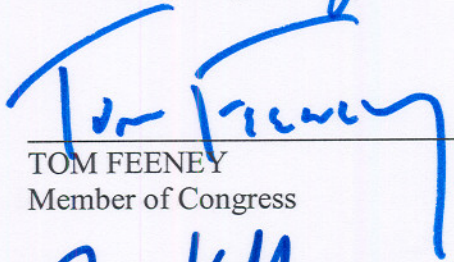


ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
Member of Congress

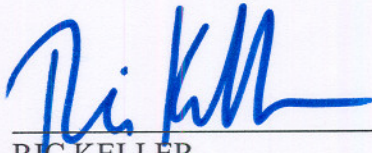
The Honorable Richard W. Pombo
September 29, 2005
Page 3



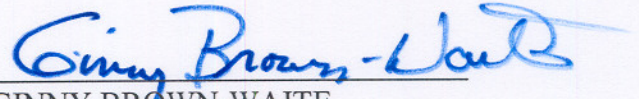
ALCEE HASTINGS
Member of Congress



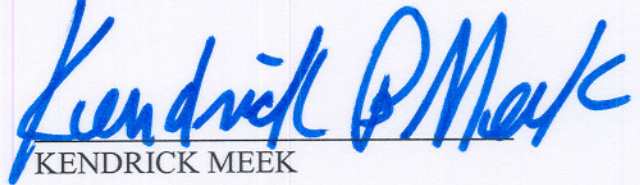
TOM FEENEY
Member of Congress



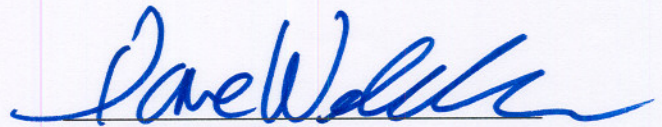
RIC KELLER
Member of Congress



GINNY BROWN-WAITE
Member of Congress



KENDRICK MEEK
Member of Congress



DAVE WELDON
Member of Congress